5: Fleure S-5 (no date)1939 EDl Rumania EDl

EDUCATION IN CURTEA DE ARGEŞ

871 368 IN THE TOWN there are five primary schools—three mixed, one for girls and one for boys. In the latter there is a kindergarten class for children between five and seven. There are two vocational secondary schools, the Theological College and the Technical School; these are for boys only. The nearest lycée for girls is at Piteşti, 37 kilometres away. Boys also must leave the town for ordinary secondary education.

872 The kindergarten was founded in 1928 by the Orthodox National Society of Roumanian Women. There is a special local committee of management. The room used is large; part of it serves as a cloakroom and for washing; the children use the same playground and offices as the boys.

● [876] THERE ARE two teachers and about fifty-five children. Careful records of the progress of each child are kept. The children work in groups in low chairs at tables; no individual work is taken. Froebel's principles are followed, but Dr. Montessori's sense-training apparatus is used and Dr. Decroby's principles of teaching arithmetic are adopted.

INTERESTING HANDWORK is taken: paper-cutting pictures, modelling in clay and in paper, lace, crochet, etc. The first twenty minutes of each morning are set apart for the care of plants and animals and of the classroom. Speech training, physical exercises, free-play and singing are taught; as the school has no musical instrument, much depends on the musical ability of the mistress. The training is similar to that of primary school teachers; the salary is fixed by the local committee.

[346] THE PRIMARY SCHOOL for girls that we visited is housed in a large building of one storey, standing in its own grounds; it contains, all leading out of a central hall, four large and lofty classrooms, a teachers' small-room and an art room; there are no cloakrooms, the children hang their clothes on stands in the classrooms. These rooms are rather bare, but very light; they are heated by a big porcelain stove and the desks take three children. In summer classes are held in the garden. The